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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/807,101	03/24/2004	Ian Richard Beaumont	00169.101769.	2522

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EXAMINER

YANG, ANDREW GUS

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2628

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/807,101

Applicant(s)

BEAUMONT, IAN RICHARD

Examiner

Andrew Yang

Art Unit

2628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 May 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Objections***

Claim 7 is objected to because of the following informalities: on line 9-10, "upon inclusion of that received object in the one or more" should be changed to --upon inclusion of that received object in the one or more object groups--. Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Curtin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,737,980).

With respect to claim 1, Curtin et al. disclose a method for forming character strings (object groups) from a plurality of alphanumeric characters (received objects) (column 3, lines 59-62). A computer receives the first signal generated by the depression of an alphanumeric keyboard key, recognizes the first signal, and generates a best guess of the desired alphanumeric character according to a predetermined algorithm (column 3, lines 42-48); hence, data is passed to the computer which recognizes the signal via a detection scheme. Since there is only one detection scheme, it is deemed inherent that the detection scheme has a priority (the highest priority). Each key represents four alphanumeric characters (column 3, lines 40-41), thus forming an

associated object group type of alphanumeric characters. It is deemed inherent that the computer detects whether a received character forms part of an object group of said associated object group type because the four alphanumeric characters of a group appear in displays 11, 12, 13, and 14 in Fig. 1 (column 3, lines 41-42) after a key is depressed. If the guess displayed by display 11 is correct, control key 19 in Fig. 1 is pressed and the character is stored in a buffer (forming a list), and displayed at the end of a series of previous choices by display 16 in Fig. 1, thus receiving a notification whether said received object forms part of said object group and determining whether one or more of the object groups are completely formed upon inclusion of that received object in the one or more object groups. Pressing the control key a second time at this point causes the string of alphanumeric characters to be output on display 16 (column 3, lines 55-60).

With respect to claim 2, Curtin et al. disclose the method as in claim 1. It is deemed inherent that the outputting step includes outputting the completely formed object group if the completely formed object group is the object group in the list of a type associated with the detection scheme with a highest priority because the completely formed word from the method is the completely formed object group and the object group are in the list of a type of alphanumeric characters in the one detection scheme of the highest priority.

With respect to claim 3, Curtin et al. disclose the method of claim 1. The data describing the received object passed to detection schemes having associated object

group types where the received object is inherently a potential member because it is chosen from one of four alphanumeric characters on the depressed key.

With respect to claim 4, Curtin et al. disclose the method of claim 1. All four alphanumeric characters are output on displays 11, 12, 13, and 14, in Fig. 1 (column 3, lines 41-42), so received objects are displayed even if not selected by the algorithm to form an object group.

With respect to claim 5, Curtin et al. disclose the method of claim 1. Previously received objects are not displayed on display 16 unless the object is the correct character (column 3, lines 55-59).

With respect to claim 6, Curtin et al. disclose the method as in claim 5, wherein previously received objects are output individually in displays 11, 12, 13, and 14 in Fig. 1 (column 3, lines 41-42), and as a group in display 16 (column 3, lines 59-60), depending on whether the received object is a correct character.

With respect to claim 7, Curtin et al. disclose a system (the computer) for executing the method of claim 1 (see rationale for rejection of claim 1).

With respect to claim 8, Curtin et al. disclose the system of claim 7 for executing the method of claim 2 (see rationale for rejection of claim 2).

With respect to claim 9, Curtin et al. disclose the system of claim 7 for executing the method of claim 3 (see rationale for rejection of claim 3).

With respect to claim 10, Curtin et al. disclose the system of claim 7 for executing the method of claim 4 (see rationale for rejection of claim 4).

With respect to claim 11, Curtin et al. disclose the system of claim 7 for executing the method of claim 5 (see rationale for rejection of claim 5).

With respect to claim 12, Curtin et al. disclose the system of claim 11 for executing the method of claim 6 (see rationale for rejection of claim 6).

With respect to claim 13, Curtin et al. disclose a computer program product for implementing the method of claim 1. It is deemed inherent that a computer program product must implement the method because this is required for the computer to execute the method.

With respect to claim 14, Curtin et al. disclose the system of claim 13 for implementing the method of claim 2 (see rationale for rejection of claim 2).

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed on May 8, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant asserts that it is the detection schemes that have priorities, not the objects. The computer uses one detection scheme, thus it is inherently the detection scheme of highest priority. Applicant states that an object may form part of the object group of one or more of the detection schemes; Curtin teaches an object forming an object group of one of the detection schemes (column 3, lines 42-48). Applicant states that there is no disclosure in Curtin of completely forming a character string and each character is individually formed and output; however Curtin discloses "the string of alphanumeric characters displayed by display 16..." (column 3, lines 59-60) thus forming a character string and outputting the string. Curtin states it is the user, not the computer who forms the character string, using the computer and abbreviated

keyboard. The claimed invention does not state that the character string (object groups) cannot be formed by a user.

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew Yang whose telephone number is (571) 272-5514. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5 M-F.

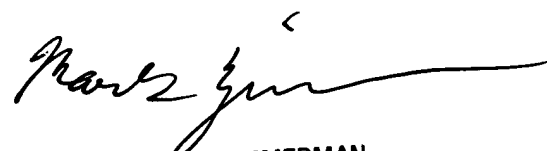
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Zimmerman can be reached on (571) 272-7653. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AGY

7/17/06

  
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